the study has been given to another party.

Setting up of inland container depot at Tughlakabad

920. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new inland container depot has been set up at Tughlakabad; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The design and layout plan of the Inland Container Depot (ICD) at Tughlakabad has been finalised and the I.C.D. is expected to become functional in 1990.

Autonomous status for colleges

921. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether University Grants Commission has proposed to confer autonomous status on 500 colleges all over the country;

(b) if so, what is the number of applications received from the colleges so far;

(c) whether Government are aware that the proposal has not been favoured by the colleges; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) The Programme of Action to implement the National Policy on Education-1986 envisages that about 500 colleges should be developed as autonomous colleges in the VII Plan.

(b) The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu have recommended 58 colleges for autonomous status for the consideration of the Commission. Of these, the Commission has already concurred in the proposals of 48 colleges.

(c) and (d) According to information available, proposals for selection of colleges are at various stages of consideration in several States. So far only the Government of West Bengal has informed that they would not adopt any hurried decision about the establishment of autonomous colleges in the State.

Nadiad-Kapadvanj-Modasa Railway Project

922. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Nadiad-Kapadvanj-Modasa railway project was approved as back as 1978;

(b) whether it is also a fact that about Rs. 7 crores have already been spent on this project and still the project is incomplete and there is no progress for the last three-four years whereas other projects started after this project have been completed; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps Government propose to take to see that the project is completed without any further delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) Nadiad-Kapadvanj-Modasa project was approved in 1978-79 and so far about Rs. 3.3 crores have been spent on it. Due to acute constraint of resources during the last four years it has not been possible to allot funds for this project. Limited resources made available by Planning Commission for New Lines and Gauge Conversion could only be allotted to a few priority projects so as to avoid spreading of resources thinly.